



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

February 2019

...a periodic update of news and events around town.

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

We await the wisdom of the groundhog, not only on when spring will come but what the State budget will provide to fund our town. With new leadership we can't really guess until the Governor's budget comes out on February 20th, but bills have already been released to transform how towns and school systems deliver service, and many proposals to force mergers and new ways of doing business. We believe that there can be efficiencies in doing things in new ways but each service needs to be studied and planned to assure that there will be not only cost savings but better service. Stay in touch with the [Manager's Facebook page](#) and attend the [budget hearing](#) on March 7th to learn how State aid changes will impact your tax bill.

A quick construction update: The Jones Crossing culvert project has all requested permits and a bid opening scheduled for late February. Construction will start in spring and be completed by fall. We just learned that a \$400,000 grant to extend sidewalks down Main Street from Springdale Avenue (opposite Coventry High School) to Lisicke Beach was received. Due to design, permitting and working with affected property owners it is unlikely this will be constructed this summer.

We expect the consultant's report on the treatment for Hydrilla in Coventry Lake by mid-month but they have already recommended we continue to treat the lake. When the report is received it will be available on our web page.

We continue to seek volunteers for Town Boards and Commissions. Please [click here](#) for openings or go to the [Boards and Commissions](#) section of our web page. We are in particular need for members on the Energy Conservation/Alternative Energy Committee due to two members moving out of town.

Finally, share what you love about our town by using the hashtag #LoveCoventry on your social media posts, or email us at lovecoventry@coventryct.org.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 2/4: Town Council, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 2/11: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 2/14: WPCA: 6 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Thurs, 2/14: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- **Tues**, 2/19: Town Council, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 2/27: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 2/25: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 2/28: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

For a complete monthly calendar of other Board & Commission events, click [here](#).

HOLIDAYS:

Mon 2/18: Presidents' Day. Town offices and Senior Center closed. Trash collection on normal schedule.

COMING EVENTS:

Fri 2/1: **Father-Daughter Valentines Dance**, 7-9:30 PM, CNHS gym, 1776 Main Street. Fathers, grandfathers and/or father-figures and their daughters will not want to miss this special, semi-formal event where lasting memories are made! A professional DJ provides the music for dancing, and refreshments will be for sale. Keepsake photos can be taken for a nominal cost by Capstone Photography. \$10 for fathers with [pre-registration](#) or \$15 at the door. Daughters are free.

Fri 2/1: **Bingo**, 6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Sponsored by the Coventry-Mansfield American Legion. Bingo, snacks, and fun for everyone. 50 cents per person includes your first surprise Bingo card. Doors open at 5:30 PM. First and third Fridays of the month. Information: 860-541-1840.

Fri 2/1: **Quiet Corner Contra Dance**, Beginner workshop 7:45 PM, Dance 8-11 PM. Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Dance to live music and a caller. Partner not necessary. Wear soft-soled shoes and light layered clothing and bring a water bottle. Adults \$12, students \$6, under 12 free. First Friday of the month from Sept. – June. Contact Dave for info: 484-844-5203 or email cannel.dm@gmail.com.

Sat 2/2: **Take Your Child to the Library Day**, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join the Library for Nursery Rhyme Olympics. Go from station to station completing tasks with Goldilocks, Mary and her lamb, the three little pigs and more! As you complete each challenge you can earn medals and trophies. Ages 5 & under. More info: <https://www.coventrypl.org/events.html>

Sun 2/3: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Connecticut grown produce, meats, eggs, and cheese. Also cupcakes, baked goods, jams, prepared foods, dog treats and hand-made soaps. A rotating selection of craft vendors each week. 2018-19 season runs through 3/17/19. [Website](#).

Weds 2/6: **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Sat, 2/9: **Bookbinding Workshop**, 1-4 PM, Mill Brook Place, 1267 Main Street. Japanese Stab binding and decorative papers, led by Barbara Timberman. \$20 Coventry Arts Guild members / \$25 for non-members. For information and registration, email Barbara.timberman@gmail.com.

Weds 2/13: **Senior Lunch Program**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Today's menu: Beef stew, dinner roll, dessert. \$5. RSVP and payment due by 10 AM Feb. 7th. Info: 860-742-3525.

Sun 2/10: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Connecticut grown produce, meats, eggs, and cheese. Also cupcakes, baked goods, jams, prepared foods, dog treats and hand-made soaps. A rotating selection of craft vendors each week. 2018-19 season runs from 11/18/18 through 3/17/19. [Website](#).

Thurs 2/14: **NEW – Thursday Night Fitness with Mary**, 5:30 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Boost your endurance, build your strength, and challenge your balance with this combination of shadow kick boxing and weight training movements. Format: timed intervals for all fitness levels. Session dates: 2/14, 2/21, 2/28 & 3/7 (with makeup snow date 3/14). Participants register for \$35 at Senior Center or Parks & Recreation office, or \$10 for drop-in fee. Info: 860-742-3525.

Sat, 2/16: **Winter Stroll in Historic Coventry Village**, 11 AM – 5 PM, Main Street. Art exhibits, Coventry Historical Society exhibits, sweet treats, special discounts and participating businesses and more. Presented by Main Street Partners. [Email Anne Burke](#) for more info.

Sun 2/17: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Connecticut grown produce, meats, eggs, and cheese. Also cupcakes, baked goods, jams, prepared foods, dog treats and hand-made soaps. A rotating selection of craft vendors each week. 2018-19 season runs from 11/18/18 through 3/17/19. [Website](#).

Weds 2/20: **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Fri 2/21: **Memory Scans with Hartford Healthcare**, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Hartford HealthCare Center for Healthy Aging will provide free memory screenings. Appointments only take 20 minutes and information remains confidential. Sign-up sheets available in the lobby at the Senior Center. More information: 860-742-3525.

Weds 2/27: **Senior Lunch Program**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Warm Your Heart Soup Luncheon. FREE. Desserts, desserts, desserts immediately following. (RSVP appreciated at 860-742-3525.)

Sun 2/24: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Connecticut grown produce, meats, eggs, and cheese. Also cupcakes, baked goods, jams, prepared foods, dog treats and hand-made soaps. A rotating selection of craft vendors each week. 2018-19 season runs from 11/18/18 through 3/17/19. [Website](#).

Mon 2/25: **NEW Book Group – Coffee, Donuts & a Book**, 1 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. A new book group has formed at the Senior Center in collaboration with the Booth and Dimock Library. Our book for February is *Bluebird, Bluebird* by Attica Locke. You can pick up your copy of the book at the Library. Info: 860-742-3525.

COVENTRY CEMETERY COMMISSION: CLEAN-UP DATES & THANK YOU:

Coventry Cemetery Commission has established annual clean-up dates for the five Town-managed cemeteries. The affected cemeteries will be cleared of dead potted plants, damaged or out-of-season decorations, and debris at the discretion of the Commission three times annually: on March 1st, August 1st and December 1st. If you have seasonal decorations that you would like to preserve, please be sure to remove them prior to any upcoming clean-up date. The five cemeteries are: Coventry Cemetery – 392 Main Street, Nathan Hale Cemetery – 100 Lake Street, Grant Hill Cemetery – 489 Grant Hill Road, Old South Burying Ground – 3373 South Street, and Carpenter Cemetery – Silver Street. [About the Cemetery Commission](#).

The Cemetery Commission would also like to thank everyone who helped make the Wreaths Across America ceremony, held on 12/15/2018 in Coventry Cemetery, a great tribute to our veterans and veterans everywhere. Pictures and information about the ceremony and its participants can be accessed on the Cemetery Commission's [Facebook page](#).

RELIEF FOR HOMEOWNERS EXPERIENCING CRUMBLING CONCRETE

FOUNDATIONS: Funds are available for reimbursement of testing expenses for households that may be affected by crumbling concrete foundations. More information about the crumbling

concrete issue, including a link to financial assistance for repairs, can be found in the [Spotlight](#) column on the home page of the Town website.

CHECK OUT THESE PROGRAMS AT THE SENIOR CENTER:

- ***ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:*** Are you in need of oil, propane, or electrical heat assistance this winter? The Senior Center is now accepting energy applications for the Access Agency in Willimantic. Please call the office at 860-742-3525 for income eligibility information and documentation requirements.
- ***THE AARP TAX PROGRAM RETURNS:*** The Senior Center is pleased to bring you FREE tax preparation assistance for your Federal and State tax returns. A team of highly trained tax volunteers will be here four Mondays (weather permitting), **February 25, March 11, March 25, April 8** by appointment only. There are multiple appointments available each day from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please call the Center at 860-742-3525 to schedule your appointment.

To list your event in this bulletin, contact Laura Stone at LStone@coventryct.org by the 15th of the previous month.